

**METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM FOR THE  
COMMUNICATION OF SERVICES IN AN OPTICAL ACCESS NETWORK**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A method, apparatus and system for the communication of services in an optical access network includes transmitting services to customer premises using a passive optical downstream link and receiving services from said customer premises using an active optical upstream link. In an embodiment of the present invention, services from a central office are communicated to 10 customer premises using a passive means for splitting an optical signal, and services from customer premises intended for the central office are communicated to the central office using active components including at least one receiver, a switch and a transmitter.